

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 04081 211949Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01
PRS-01 AGRE-00 /102 W
-----031589 220109Z /63

R 211725Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4800
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4081

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: BDIS, EINV, ENRG, EC
SUBJECT: SEMBLANTES SAYS NORTHWEST WILL BE FORCED TO FULFILL
IT'S CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS

REF: QUITO 3-63

1. DURING GUAYAQUIL PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 17, MINISTER
OF NATURAL RESOURCES JAIME SEMBLANTES ANNOUNCED ONCE
AGAIN THAT HE WOULD FORCE NORTHWEST TO FULFILL ITS
CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL GAS
IN THE GULF OF GUAYAQUIL. ANNOUNCEMENT RECEIVED
PROMINENT COVERAGE IN LOCAL PRESS.

2. SEMBLANTES POINTED OUT THAT NORTHWEST HAS NOT YET
BEGUN ITS DRILLING PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR THIS YEAR,
AND THAT ONLY COMPLETION OF THE DRILLING PROGRAM WOULD
FURNISH A DEFINITIVE ESTIMATE OF RESERVES. HE ADDED
THAT NORTHWEST'S PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLYING GAS TO
THE GUAYAQUIL MARKET WAS NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE CEPE-
NORTHWEST CONTRACT AND CLAIMED (APPARENTLY CONTRA-
DICTING HIS PREVIOUS STATEMENT) THAT THE CONTRACT
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SPECIFIED THAT THE RESERVE LEVEL WAS SUFFICIENT TO
PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OF A FERTILIZER PLANT.

3. COMMENT: THE NORTHWEST CONTRACT STATES THAT
CONSTRUCTION OF AN AMMONIA/UREA COMPLEX IS DEPENDENT
ON DETERMINATION OF THE RESERVE LEVEL AND ON A
NUMBER OF OTHER FACTORS. NORTHWEST ATTORNEY LUIS

SALAZAR TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 17 THAT SEMBLANTES' RECENT
REMARKS WERE UNEXPECTED, SINCE GENERAL DURAN HAD
SEEMED SYMPATHETIC TO NORTHWEST'S PRESENTATION.
(REFTEL). NORTHWEST HAS NOT YET APPROACHED GENERAL
DURAN A SECOND TIME BUT PLANS TO DO SO IN THE NEAR
FUTURE.
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATURAL GAS, OFFSHORE DRILLING, PRESS CONFERENCES, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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Expiration:
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From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: BDIS, EINV, ENRG, EC, NORTHWEST, (SEMBLANTES, JAIME)
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